1955

V

LEVANT DEPARTMENT

JORDAN

VJ1821/1

FROM Chancery Amman to Levant Department

No. 1283/10/55

Dated June 24

Received in Registry— July 11.

Musa Alami and the Arab Development Society

Musa Alami's refugee farm in the Jordan valley has for sale fruit, eggs & poultry. Suggests that the oil companies operating in the Middle East might be interested in buying this produce, and says they should be encouraged to do so.

182

References to former relevant papers

File VJ1821/-/24)

MINUTES

There is no doubt that Musa Alami has done very well with his scheme & I suppose there is no harm in helping to market his products. I should have thought that distribution by air (by special aircraft, perhaps, not at ordinary freight rates on established lines?) would have made the prices charged no longer competitive – but already Aramco & Tapline do not think so.

? drop the oil companies concerned accordingly ?

[illegible] 14/7.

Perhaps ERD have advice to offer on the method of approach to British oil companies ?

[illegible] 15/7

Mr Belgrave – I think it would be

(Print)

115712

(How disposed of)

Mr. Bird, I.P.C.
Mr. de Candole, Kuwait Petroleum Co.
from Mr Belgrave July 22

(Action completed)	(Index)
ERD 22/7	[illegible] 21/7/55

References to later relevant papers

48018

best for me to send a personal letter to the two companies and attach a draft.

R. Belgrave
18/7.

Draft to issue
24/7

A] Mr. De Candole MR/031
to Mr. Rose. 2/8.

E.R.D. (Mr. Belgrave) RB 9/8 8/8

I have given Mr de Candole the London addresses of Musa Alami, with whom he says he will get in touch.

9/8

B]. Mr. Bird, 2003/A
I.P.C. Sep. 8.
to Mr. Belgrave

E.R.D. (Mr. Spearman) C.S. 13/9 12/9.

Number of copies .....

Number of copies of enclosures .....

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS PAGE

BRITISH EMBASSY,

AMMAN.

RESTRICTED

(1283/10/55)

June 24, 1955.

Dear Department,

You will no doubt have heard of the Arab Development Society which is a project run by Musa Alami. Aided by contributions which he has received from various charitable and other organizations, Musa Alami has established a flourishing farm in the Jordan Valley near Jericho. He is gradually cleansing the salty ground so that most types of crops may be grown on it, and he now produces a variety of vegetables and fruit as well as eggs and poultry. The farm is almost entirely staffed by refugees and frontier villagers, and there is a school at which about 80 refugee children are given education and trained in a variety of trades and crafts.

2. The purpose of this letter is to suggest that you might call the attention of the oil companies operating in the Middle East to the fact that Musa Alami's farm has these products to dispose of at competitive prices. Both Tapline and ARAMCO already buy produce from the Society and we understand that arrangements are made to send it by aircraft to wherever it is required. We think that British oil companies may not be aware of this service and that they might find it a useful amenity, while at the same time they would, by patronising it, be materially assisting a project which is worthy of their help.

3. We are sending a copy of this letter to the British Middle East Office at Nicosia and would be grateful if they would draw the attention of the Army food-purchasing authorities to the Society's activities.

4. We shall be glad to try to find out any additional information which you or the British Middle East Office may need.

Yours ever,

CHANCERY.

Levant Department,
Foreign Office,
London, S.W.1.

2 letters
3 composite copies.

Registry No. VJ 1821/1

Top Secret.
Secret.
Confidential.
Restricted.
Open.

Draft.

Letter.

From:

Mr. T. R. D. Belgrave.

To:

R. E. R. Bird, Esq., Iraq Petroleum Company, 214, Oxford St., W.1.
and to
E. A. V. de Candole, Esq., Kuwait Oil Company, 1 Gt. Cumberland Place, W.1.

(Type twice)

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

July 22/10

We have been asked by our Embassy in Amman to bring to your attention the Arab Development Society which is a project run by one Musa Alami. Aided by contributions which he has received from various charitable and other organisations, Musa Alami has established a flourishing farm in the Jordan valley near Jericho. He is gradually cleansing the salty ground so that most types of crop may be grown on it, and he now produces a variety of vegetables and fruit as well as eggs and poultry. The farm is almost entirely staffed by Palestinian refugees and frontier villagers, and there is a school at which about 80 refugee children are given education and trained in trades and crafts.

2. The farm offers its produce for sale at competitive prices, and we understand that both Tapline and Aramco already buy produce from it, and that arrangements are made for despatch by air. We have been asked to bring this to your attention because, if you found it convenient to obtain supplies from there, it would be of material~~ly~~ assistance to a project which we believe is worthy of help.

18/7

20/7

F.O.P.

OUTFILE

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

July 22, 1955.

(VJ 1821/1)

Dear Dick,

Dear De. Candole

We have been asked by our Embassy in Amman to bring to your attention the Arab Development Society which is a project run by one Musa Alami. Aided by contributions which he has received from various charitable and other organisations, Musa Alami has established a flourishing farm in the Jordan valley near Jericho. He is gradually cleansing the salty ground so that most types of crop may be grown on it, and he now produces a variety of vegetables and fruit as well as eggs and poultry. The farm is almost entirely staffed by Palestinian refugees and frontier villagers, and there is a school at which about 80 refugee children are given education and trained in trades and crafts.

The farm offers its produce for sale at competitive prices, and we understand that both Tapline and Aramco already buy produce from it, and that arrangements are made for despatch by air. We have been asked to bring this to your attention because, if you found it convenient to obtain supplies from there, it would be of material assistance to a project which we believe is worthy of help.

Yours ever,

Yours sincerely

(T.R.D. Belgrave)

R.E.R. Bird, Esq.,
Iraq Petroleum Company,
214, Oxford Street,
W.1.

E.A.V. de Candole, Esq.,
Kuwait Oil Company,
1, Great Cumberland Place,
W.1.

Eeder

EV

TELEPHONE :
PADDINGTON 1453 (8 LINES)
AMBASSADOR 1271 (11 LINES)

1, GREAT CUMBERLAND PLACE,
LONDON, W.1.

MR/031.7

VJ 1821/1A ANDERED

2nd August, 1955.

VJ 1821/1.

NTUE

Dear Belgrave

Thank you for your letter of July 22nd. I am asking our people at Kuwait to make enquiries regarding the possible supply of vegetables and fruit from the Arab Development Society's farm.

I have heard a lot about Musa Alami's project and the good work which is being done for the Arab refugees, and consider that this is a project which deserves all support. I passed a note to the Managing Director about this.

Yours Sincerely
C.a.V. de Candole

T.R.D. Belgrave Esq., E.R.D.
The Foreign Office,
LONDON, S.W.1.

Mr Spearman
ERD

Enter C.S. 9/9

TELEPHONE:
MUSEUM 8010

214, OXFORD STREET.
OXFORD CIRCUS.
LONDON, W.1.

V

No. 2003/A

September 8th, 1955.

Dear Robert,

I apologise for not having answered your letter of July 22nd, 1955, about Musa Alami's Jordan valley farm.

I gave Paul Ensor a copy of your letter and he is going to see whether he can make any use of the produce.

I met Musa Alami some years ago in Tripoli and I think one must credit him with great perseverance.

Yours sincerely,

Dick

(R.E.R. Bird)

T. R. D. Belgrave, Esq.,
Foreign Office,
London S.W.1.

1955

V

LEVANT DEPARTMENT

VJ 1821/2

JORDAN

FROM Mr. Duke, Amman
to
Mr. Rose

No. 1012/35/55

Dated July 27

Received in Registry— August 2

Conversation between Cecil Hourani and Mr. Duke

Discussed Musa Alami and his colonies for refugee orphans. Mr. Hourani is looking after a colony for refugee boys during his vacation.

Mr. Alami is coming to London shortly, and although he is very wilder, he would probably like an invitation for a talk

Gives Hourani's comments.

References to former relevant papers

(Print)

(How disposed of)

Dft. Mr. Falle, Des. Dir. Beirut from Mr. Simpson.

cc. Amman
Jerusalem
BMEO.

Sc. Col. Rudolf Edmunds, Esq. 13/8.

Dft. Mr. Duke, Amman from Mr. Rose

Enc. Aug. 16

(Action completed)	(Index)
B Bugg	p. 129

References to later relevant papers

MINUTES

Mr. Duke recommends that Mr. Rose should invite Sayid Musa Alami to call in order to get his measure. I will arrange this as soon as the Jordan Embassy get me his address in London.

2. Subject to Mr. Malow's advice, I would suggest raising no questions other than the progress of the Arab Development Society's (Mr. Alami's) farm and school for refugees near Jericho. There is a background minute on this at VJ 1821/2 of 1954, Flag A, and a booklet at Flag D. Correspondence with Members of Parliament (at Flags B and C) shows that H.M. Government support the project but are not prepared to canvass the Jordan Government, or such magnates as the Sheikh of Kuwait, on Mr. Alami's behalf. The Members of Parliament made a public appeal in the Times of October 6, 1954. We do not know the material response, but interest was certainly aroused. This year (see -/1, Flag E) we have tried to interest British oil companies in purchasing fruit and vegetables from the Society's farm.

3. Mr. Alami may take the line that his Society deserves material support from UNRWA. He may say that the Agency's experts once considered it impossible to get enough sweet water from the area, but he dug wells, made a success of it, and deserves recognition. If so he might be told gently that he struck lucky and that we understand the permanent de-salting of the soil is still a chancy business; but, however that may be, we and all concerned very much admire his devotion and energy. We are not experts on the farming of salty soil and we cannot prejudge the technical issues, but if there is a possibility of expanding the project, with the Jordan Government's blessing, and if his highly individual enterprise can be married with the unavoidably more regimented efforts of UNRWA, we shall be only too pleased. The Agency are making loans and grants for new projects in Jordan, and we hope that Mr. Alami can reach some arrangement with Mr. Clarke, the country representative of UNRWA at Amman. (I learnt privately that he is a very good type).

48018

/4. The

4. The suggestion, made by Mr. Hourani to Mr. Duke, that Mr. Alami might play an important part in any preliminary negotiations for a settlement between Israel and the Arabs, should be borne in mind. He does command wide respect among the Arabs, but his temper is said to be too unstable for him to be a great political leader (See Reg G : EE 1826/8 of 1950).

(K. J. Simpson)
August 5, 1955.

Mr Hardman Jones

Mr Rose gave luncheon to Mr Alami on 4th inst.

Discussed letter to Mr Falls Bennett

Mr Duke

Number of copies

Number of copies of enclosures

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS PAGE

CONFIDENTIAL

(1072/35/55)

BRITISH EMBASSY,

AMMAN.

July 27, 1955.

J 1821/2

Dear Michael.

I had a conversation which I found interesting with Cecil Hourani on July 25. He is as you probably know, a former member of the Arab Office in London, now a lecturer at the University in Beirut; at the moment he is here during the present vacation looking after a colony for orphan refugee boys which is run by one Musa Alami. The latter was a prominent Arab political figure who finally became disgusted with Arab politics in about 1949 and has become a sort of "Dr. Barnardo" of the refugees. His colony is a most excellent and inspiring institution, which he established himself in the face of almost universal official opposition. Incidentally, Musa Alami is arriving shortly in London, and I am told will be there during the first half of August anyway. The main object of his visit is to have treatment for a slipped disc. He is an extremely interesting and I think, impressive man whom I suggest it would be well worth your while to meet. I have not been able to find out exactly where he is staying, but you could almost certainly get in touch with him through the Jordan Embassy. He is a diffident person who would be unlikely to make any approach himself, but would I am sure appreciate and respond very gladly to any invitation for a talk.

2. In the course of a general conversation Cecil Hourani remarked that he thought it was beginning to be generally recognised, at least by educated people and particularly in Jordan on the West Bank, that the present dispute between the Arabs and Israel could not be allowed to drag on but must be settled sooner rather than later. He said he had found opinion in Jordan much less intransigent than in Iraq and Syria or even in the Lebanon, and he thought that Jordan would have reached a settlement with Israel before this, but for the illusion of help from the other Arab States and the obstruction of the Arab League. He suggested that it ought to be brought home to the rulers of Israel that their best chance of securing a settlement would be to make one possible for Jordan by helping her over the refugees so that she would be independent of the other Arab states in this particular matter.

3. I pointed out the impossibility of the absorption in Jordan of the best part of half a million refugees, while on the other hand the majority of these people could be taken into at least Syria and Iraq with benefit to those countries. He said that that would then make a settlement dependent on

/the

E.M. Rose, Esq., C.M.G.,
Levant Department,
Foreign Office,
London, S.W.1.

the agreement of those countries, and he could not see them giving it within a measureable period of time.

4. Hourani went on to talk about the time factor. He contended strongly that time produced no solution but only made the problem worse. In the present conditions the refugees were deterioriating morally and physically. They brooded over their losses and "the good old days" in Palestine loomed larger and larger and better and better in their thoughts as time went on. Their children also were being brought up in an atmosphere of hatred and mistrust of the Israelis. Moreover the present generation had had many personal contacts with individual Jews such as their children could not have in the present circumstances, and that barrier between them and the Israeli people was growing all the time. The nettle he thought should therefore be grasped without further delay.

5. The immediate difficulty was how to establish some sort of contact between the Arabs and the Israelis. There was no hope of progress as long as they remained completely cut off from each other, and he wondered whether the leaders in the West were seriously thinking about this problem. I drew his attention to the various public references to it and to the crying need for a settlement which had been made in recent months both in London and in Washington. We agreed that it was not easy however to find leaders on either side who had the stature and the courage to make a move to break the present deadlock. Of the Israelis, Hourani said that he had more hope of Ben Gurion than he had of Sharrett. He claimed to have known them both in the old days and said that Sharrett was a bundle of nerves and complexes, who had never forgotten that as a boy he was once a poor servant in an Arab household (he thought, of the Husseinis); Ben Gurion, though more violent in his utterances, was in Hourani's view a much bigger man and capable of a much broader outlook; he would also carry more weight with his own people, if he could be induced to support the idea of a reasonable settlement. He claimed also to have known Mr. I. Berlin, a Fellow of All Souls (not the composer!), who he said had great influence in Israel and might be induced to help. On the Arab side he could see no one at present, but thought that Musa Alami himself might play an important part if negotiations could once be started, as he commanded respect amongst the Arabs though he has now no political following, and amongst the Israelis also, to many of whom he was personally well known.

6. This lack of personalities of sufficient strength to make a move was the greatest immediate obstacle to progress as, in Hourani's view, it was essential that the first steps should be taken secretly. Anything in the nature of a public proposal for settlement would in his view produce such a public outcry that no government or politician could withstand it and the leaders would immediately become the prisoners of the hate propaganda which they had been spreading for so long.

7. I thought these views were of interest, coming as they do from a well educated, intelligent and thoughtful man who is an Arab, but by his training and background is able to take a more detached and objective view of the problem.

/Whether

Whether he represents anyone but himself, I cannot say. I got the impression that he was entirely sincere in the opinions which he expressed. He was definite that it would have to be the Israelis who made most of the concessions to contribute towards a settlement, but he realised also that they would have to be convinced that they themselves would get something out of it, and he expressed the belief that they might be willing to pay quite a considerable price to secure peace with the Arabs and have their security guaranteed internationally. The financial burden of the maintenance of large defence forces and the psychological strain resulting from their feeling of isolation must be growing constantly harder to bear.

8. I hesitate to add to the already excessive length of this letter, but you may be interested to hear that Hacket-Pain, our Consul in Nablus, who spends the whole of his time there amongst the Arab inhabitants of that most politically minded town (there is precious little other company for him in any case), happened to come in to see me the following day and repeated that there was a growing feeling in favour of some settlement of the dispute with Israel. He said that the question he was constantly being asked by refugees who had been men of substance was, what would they get in the way of compensation for their losses. That seemed to loom most prominently in their minds. It would be essential to any settlement scheme that there should be a definite offer of compensation to the refugees, and it would have to be guaranteed by the United Nations or the Western Powers. Hacket-Pain remarked that little seemed to have been said by the Western Powers on this particular subject of compensation; Israel had spoken of it vaguely, but the refugees knew that an offer of compensation by Israel alone would be valueless, since she has not the resources unless backed by solid foreign guarantees.

9. I am sending a copy of this letter to Nicholls in Tel Aviv and Chapman Andrews in Beirut.

Yours ever,

Charles Duke

(C.B. Duke)

Registry
No. VJ 1821/2

Top Secret.
~~Secret.~~
Confidential.
~~Restricted.~~
Open.

Draft. Letter

To: Mr Fuller DSC
Dep Dir
Beirut

From:
Mr Simpson

Copy:
Amman
Jerusalem
BMEO
Tory (Col RE)

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Acting on a suggestion by Mr. Arnold of Amman, Michael Rose consulted our Mr. Mirani, who is in London on private business, and gave him a lunch on (at which I was present) Aug 11 in order to get this newcomer and get a private hand account of the Arab Development Society's problems near Jericho.

2. It was a profitable occasion, and Rose gained a very favourable impression of his. Of course there was no time or train to record his allegedly unstable temper, and one had to allow for the fact that he was telling his own story; but the quality of the man is unmistakable. He seems to have shown rare determination to make a success of his experiment and a restless energy in pursuing one scheme after another until the settlement was paying its way.

3. Among other things he told us

/ how

how he had defied a Jordan Govt decision in 1948 that the Society's funds should be used for emergency feeding and had smuggled the money to Beirut until he was permitted to use it to dig wells; and how (as we knew) UNRWA and British experts had said his well-irrigated farms would be uneconomic, but now capitalists from Amman were following his example. He described how he had taught the "banana Kings" of Jericho to leach the soil by planting in level basins, dug very deep, so that the water carried the salt right down to the sloping subsoil; and how he had cut his tomato losses, in the occasional frosts, by monthly plantings and by sheltering the plants between rows of other crops. His present concern is to expand his poultry farm, on which the best European breeds thrive against everyone's advice; and to build up a dairy farm with pasteurising equipment and cheese and butter-making machines.

4./Quite

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry
No.

Top Secret.
Secret.
Confidential.
Restricted.
Open.

Draft.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

4. Quite frankly, he said, ~~90%~~ ninety percent of his success was due to being on the spot day and night, and learning the vagaries of the Jordan Valley. He had some harsh things to say about the Palestinian Administration, and UNRWA after them, who had planted settlers from the coastal plain in the Jordan Valley and had been surprised to see the settlements deserted after a few crop failures. His ~~two words~~ ~~of~~ advice ~~was~~: local research and training. Concerning research, he roundly condemned the Americans' choice of Tulkarm, whence they would "take the students to visit the Valley on Fridays in the Winter". He thought Tranghi had done a very good job at Deir Alla, but it was not enough to experiment there, with sweet soil and water; one had to ~~go~~ go down the hill and get to grips with conditions in the Valley.

5. As regards training, he again

/stressed

F.O.P.

stressed the need for practical work in the Valley. He thought it was ~~wrong~~ ~~politics~~ to establish UNRWA training schools in agriculture at Irbid and Jerash, as certain interested members of the Jordanian Cabinet had agreed. (I did not say anything about the International Bank Mission's view that hill farming in Jordan would be just as important as farming the Valley.) One interesting point which Atlani made was that Burns and Ferguson of UNRWA had been down to see him about placing ~~UNRWA~~ ~~agricultural~~ Agency trainees in the Arab Development Society's Agricultural School. He said he would be prepared to do this if UNRWA would build the necessary accommodation and pay the trainees' keep. At the same time he hoped that UNRWA and UNESCO might give him a little help otherwise, by way of school materials and perhaps a few medical stores.

6. If there is anything you can do to encourage this, after sounding Burns & Ferguson,

/we

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry
No.

Top Secret.
Secret.
Confidential.
Restricted.
Open.

Draft.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

we should like you to take it up.

7. For a lawyer, Alami seems to be a very practical farmer and businessman. He laid great stress on the importance of marketing. I thought of Eyre's similar advice and Baron's opinion that UNRWA's Yarmuk-Jordan Scheme is so far deficient in that respect. Alami has apparently brought the quality and grading and packing of his produce right up to the standard demanded by ARAMCO and is, it seems, already supplying about a thousand new-laid eggs at a time to Dahran, where they have a demand for

/18,000

(46705) F.O.P.

18,000 a day, now mostly supplied in preserved form from Australia.

8/ On another

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry
No.

Top Secret.
Secret.
Confidential.
Restricted.
Open.

Draft.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

we should like you to take it up.

8. On another point, Alami said he wanted that seemed to us an improbable degree of cooperation from UNRWA. He said he had over a thousand unskilled and skilled refugees working for him, but found it impossible to make them more than casual labourers because of the Agency's imposition of rations cuts when they earned (he said) more than £1 a month. I said that, to the best of my knowledge, UNRWA were trying to obtain agreement with the Jordan Govt on a reasonable "income scale" which would involve earnings of nearer £1.5 a month before cuts were applied. Alami maintained however that the principle was wrong; every incentive should be given to the refugees to get regular work — perhaps full-scale rations only to those who did work — so that when, inevitably, the international

/relief

F.O.P.

relief was withdrawn, the majority of the refugees would have a job of some kind to fall back on.

9. We did not get very far along that line, but Alami went on to talk quite frankly about the wrongheadedness of Arab politicians in fostering refugee grievances and setting the people against "rehabilitation". Without discussing the substance of the Arab-Israel dispute, or what could be done about it, he ~~explained~~ said that the negative attitude of which he complained made his own task doubly difficult. Refugees who some day were interested in joining his settlement would be "got at" by others who ~~dissuaded~~ warned them ~~from~~ against jeopardising their rights to repatriation or compensation. And he ~~found that~~ could find no young Arabs prepared to devote themselves to the Society's work and ensure its continuance; they came out of the universities with politically twisted minds.

10. Alami himself is about

/sixty

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry No.

Top Secret.
Secret.
Confidential.
Restricted.
Open.

Draft.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

sixty and is presumably good for a number of years. His enthusiasm is certainly undiminished. But he has neglected a slipped disc and is now limping along in some discomfort, wearing a steel corset. He says he will "think about" the advice of his doctors that he should rest for a few months in a plaster cast, but he cannot do it just now. All told, we should welcome any help which UNRWA could give him with crippling his initiative

11. I am copying this letter to Amman, Jerusalem & Nicosia.

12/8

OUTFILE

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

August 13, 1955.

(VJ 1821/2)

CONFIDENTIAL

My dear Sam,

Acting on a suggestion by Her Majesty's Ambassador in Amman, Michael Rose sought out Musa Alami, who is in London on private business, and gave him lunch on August 11 (at which I was present) in order to take his measure and get a first-hand account of the Arab Development Society's farms and schools near Jericho.

2. It was a profitable exercise, and Rose gained a very favourable impression of him. Of course there was no stress or strain to reveal his allegedly unstable temper, and one had to allow for the fact that he was telling his own story; but the quality of the man is unmistakeable. He seems to have shown rare determination to make a success of his experiment and a restless energy in pursuing one scheme after another until the settlement now pays its way.

3. Among other things he told us how he had defied a Jordan Government decision in 1948 that the Society's funds should be used for emergency feeding and had smuggled the money to Beirut until he was permitted to use it to dig wells; and how (as we knew) U.N.R.W.A. and British experts had said his well-irrigated farms would be uneconomic, but capitalists from Amman were now following his example. He described how he had taught the "banana kings" of Jericho to leach the soil by planting in level basins, dug very deep, so that the water carried the salt right down to the sloping subsoil; and how he had cut his tomato losses, in the occasional frosts, by monthly plantings and by sheltering the plants between rows of other crops. His present concern is to expand his poultry farm, on which the best European breeds thrive against everyone's advice; and to build up a dairy farm with pasteurising equipment and cheese and butter-making machines.

4. Quite frankly, he said, ninety percent of his success was due to being on the spot day and night, and learning the vagaries of the Jordan Valley. He had some harsh things to say about the Palestine Administration, and UNRWA after them, who had planted settlers from the coastal plain in the Jordan Valley and had been surprised to see the settlements deserted after a few crop failures. His advice was: local research and training. Concerning research, he roundly condemned the Americans' choice of Tulkarm, whence they would "take the students to visit the Valley on Fridays in the winter". He thought Trought had done a very good job at Deir Alla, but it was not enough to experiment there, with sweet soil and water; one had to go down the hill and get to grips with conditions in the Valley.

5./

S. Falle, Esq., D.S.C.,
Development Division,
Beirut.

5. As regards training, he again stressed the need for practical work in the Valley. He thought it was wrong to establish UNRWA training schools in agriculture at Irbid and Jerash, as certain interested member of the Jordanian Cabinet had agreed. (I did not say anything about the International Bank Mission's view that hill farming in Jordan would be just as important as farming the Valley.) One interesting point which Alami made was that Burns and Ferguson of UNRWA had been down to see him about placing Agency trainees in the Arab Development Society's Agricultural School. He said he would be prepared to do this if UNRWA would build the necessary accommodation and pay the trainees' keep. At the same time he hoped that UNRWA and UNESCO might give him a little help otherwise, by way of school materials and perhaps a few medical stores.

6. If there is anything you can do to encourage this, after sounding Burns and Ferguson, we should like you to take it up.

7. For a lawyer, Alami seems to be a very practical farmer and business man. He laid great stress on the importance of marketing. I thought of Eyre's similar advice and Bacon's opinion that UNRWA's Yarmuk-Jordan Scheme is so far deficient in that respect. Alami has apparently brought the quality and grading and packing of his produce right up to the standard demanded by ARAMCO and is, it seems, already supplying about a thousand new laid eggs at a time to Dahran, where they have a demand for 18,000 a day, now mostly supplied in preserved form from Australia.

8. On another point, Alami said he wanted what seemed to us an improbable degree of cooperation from UNRWA. He said he had over a thousand unskilled and skilled refugees working for him, but found it impossible to make them more than casual labourers because of the Agency's imposition of ration cuts when they earned (he said) more than £7 a month. I said that, to the best of my knowledge, UNRWA were trying to obtain agreement with the Jordan Government on a reasonable "income scale" which would involve earnings of nearer £15 a month before cuts were applied. Alami maintained however that the principle was wrong; every incentive should be given to the refugees to get regular work - perhaps full-scale rations only to those who <u>did</u> work - so that when, inevitably, the international relief was withdrawn, the majority of the refugees would have a job of some kind to fall back on.

9. We did not get very far along that line, but Alami went on to talk quite frankly about the wrongheadedness of Arab politicians in fostering refugee grievances and setting the people against "rehabilitation". Without discussing the substance of the Arab-Israel dispute, or what could be done about it, he said that the negative attitude of which he complained made his own task doubly difficult. Refugees who one day were interested in joining his settlement would be "got at" by others who warned them against jeopardising their right to repatriation or compensation. And he could find no young Arabs prepared to devote themselves to the Society's work and ensure its continuance; they came out of the universities with politically twisted minds.

10./

10. Alami himself is about sixty and is presumably good for a number of years. His enthusiasm is certainly undiminished. But he has neglected a slipped disc and is now limping along in some discomfort, wearing a steel corset. He says he will "think about" the advice of his doctors that he should rest for a few months in a plaster cast, but he cannot do it just now. All told, we should welcome any help which UNRWA could give him without crippling his initiative.

11. I am copying this letter to Amman, Jerusalem and Nicosia.

(K.J. Simpson)

Registry
No. VJ 1821/2

~~Top Secret~~
~~Secret~~
Confidential.
~~Restricted~~
~~Open~~

Draft. letter

Mr. C.B. Duke CMG CIE

Amman

From Mr. EM Rose

14/8

16/8.

ENCLOSURE

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN

You will see from the enclosed letter, from Simpson to Falle, that I took your advice to get hold of Musa Alami. And very good value he was.

2. From what he said about the absence of "authority" since the death of King Abdullah and about his having enemies as well as friends in high places, I gather that he used to go to the King over the head of Ministers and that he would probably not carry much weight these days in the absence of a special link with the Palace.

3. Moreover there is Kirkbride's testimony that his unstable temper disqualifies him from the leadership for which his other qualities might fit him.

4. Nevertheless he is a remarkable man and we will bear in mind the possibility that he might one day play a part in an accommodation brought about by reasonable Arabs and Jews. I was extremely interested by the note I was grateful to you for supplying that I should like to hold on him.

15/viii

51—4800

OUTFILE

(VJ 1821/2)

CONFIDENTIAL

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

August 16, 1955.

My dear Charles

You will see from the enclosed letter, from Simpson to Falle, that I took your advice to get hold of Musa Alami. And very good value he was.

From what he said about the absence of "authority" since the death of King Abdullah and about his having enemies as well as friends in high places, I gather that he used to go to the King over the head of Ministers and that he would probably not carry much weight these days in the absence of a special link with the Palace.

Moreover there is Kirkbride's testimony that his unstable temper disqualifies him from the leadership for which his other qualities might fit him.

Nevertheless he is a remarkable man and we will bear in mind the possibility that he might one day play a part in an accommodation brought about by reasonable Arabs and Jews. I was anyhow greatly impressed by the man and very grateful to you for suggesting that I should get hold of him.

Yours ever,

Michael Rose.

(E.M. Rose)

C.B. Duke, Esq., C.M.G., C.I.E.,
Amman.

1955

V

LEVANT DEPARTMENT

JORDAN

VJ 1821/3

FROM Foreign Office Minute, Mr. Rapson

No.

Dated August 5.

Received in Registry— August 12.

Visit of Musa Alami.

A visit to a chicken-farm could easily be arranged. Dr. Allcroft of the Ministry of Agriculture would gladly attend a meeting with Musa Alami.

182

References to former relevant papers

(Print)

(How disposed of)

(Action completed)

RB 18/8.

(Index)

1944

References to later relevant papers

MINUTES

17/8

48018

VJ 1821/3.

Enter

K. J. S.

Visit of Sayid Musa Alami.

Dr. Allcroft of the Min/Ag. will be glad to arrange a visit to a chicken farm if this is wanted. Dr. Allcroft will be in London for the next two weeks & will gladly attend a meeting with Musa Alami here at the F.O. if we let him know when (his telephone no. is Welbeck 7711.)

[illegible] 8/8.

Please

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Please thank Dr Allcroft sincerely, but say we learn that Mr Alami has been in correspondence with Fairbairns of Newcastle and is going up to see them about further supplies of day-old chicks or possibly fertilised eggs.

S J A.

11/8

I have done so.

11/8.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

F.O.P.

V

LEVANT DEPARTMENT

JORDAN

VJ 1821/4

FROM

Mr. Duke, Amman

to Mr. Rose

No. 1283/13/55

Dated August 24.

Received in Registry— August 30.

Visit of Musa Alami to England.

Mr. Duke is glad that Musa Alami was able to have talks while he was in England. He agrees that there is not much chance of an immediate political return for him.

Suggests he may be helped by having his goods advertised to the British forces and to oil companies.

182

References to former relevant papers

VJ 1821/2

VJ 1821/1

(Print)

(How disposed of)

Aft. Mr. Duke, Amman from Mr. Rose. 2/9

(Action completed)	(Index)
RESB 2/9.	↓ 14/1

References to later relevant papers

MINUTES

With a view to helping Musa Alami's project Mr. Belgrave would to the Iraq Petroleum Company and the Kuwait Oil Co., telling them of the produce he has for sale & inviting them to buy (-/1 - Flag A).

Mr Simpson also gave Musa Alami's London address, to Mr. de Gaudole of the Kuwait Oil Co., who said that he would get into touch.

I submit a dft. reply.

S.J. Hopden

31/8.

Good.

WR 31/viii

46161

BRITISH EMBASSY
AMMAN

1283/13/55
Confidential

August 24, 1955

Mr Boyle
What can we do about X?

Dear Michael -

J 1821/1

Thank you very much for your letter of August 16 (VJ 1821/2) and its enclosure about Musa Alami.

2. I am grateful to you for getting hold of him and giving him an opportunity of getting so much off his chest. I am sure that he will have appreciated your attention very much indeed and that it will consolidate his general good will towards us, in spite of his complaints of some of our actions and policies. I am glad also that you found him good value, I always do myself, though I sometimes feel rather at a loss to think of ways of helping him with what I genuinely believe to be a shining - indeed almost unique - example of constructive action by an Arab on his own initiative.

3. I agree with you that he has few prospects of an immediate political return. Nor indeed I think could he be induced to come back unless he saw a chance of working out a more consistent policy than any government in Jordan has been able to produce since King Abdullah's death, but he might be useful some time nevertheless.

4. There is one way of helping him which was suggested in my Chancery letter to the Department No. 1283/10/55 of June 24th, namely by advertising his goods to the oil companies and British forces. We will do what we can here but a word from you in the proper business and service quarters would no doubt be valuable.

X

VJ1821/1.

Yours ever

Charles Duke

(C.B.Duke)

E.M. Rose, Esq., C.M.G.,
Levant Department,
Foreign Office,
LONDON, S.W.1.

Registry No. VJ 1821/4

~~Top Secret.~~
~~Secret.~~
Confidential.
~~Restricted.~~
~~Open.~~

CM.

Draft.

C.B.

Mr. Duke, Esq., CMG
Ammun CIE

from

Mr. E.M. Rose

Correction

A. Hopkins
3.1.8.

3.20
1/9
2/9.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

+1

1/4

Many thanks for your letter (1283/12/55) of May 24 about Belgium.

1/5

You asked if we could help Mr. Alani to get a job in this country. ~~We are glad to be able to do this, and we are also willing to accept your suggestion that we should be responsible for the expenses~~ in your charming letter no. 1283/10/55 of June 24. ~~that we~~ We can speak to ~~might advertise his wares~~ ~~to the oil companies.~~ ~~(have already done~~ ~~This we did~~ ~~and have~~ ~~invited~~ both the Iraq Petroleum Company and the Kuwait Oil Company ~~supply the right to~~ buy supplies from him. Also we took advantage of his presence in

(46705) F.O.P.

in London to put
someone in the Kuwait
Oil Co. in direct touch
with him.
We will do what we can to
~~I hope~~ that
~~we may~~ find further
opportunities of helping
Alani in this way.

MR 31/VIII

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

OUTFILE

(VJ 1821/4)

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

CONFIDENTIAL

September 2, 1955.

Dear Charles,

Many thanks for your letter (1283/13/55) of August 24 about helping Musa Alami. I am glad to say we had already done something on the receipt of your Chancery letter No. 1283/10/55 of June 24. We spoke to both the Iraq Petroleum Company and the Kuwait Oil Company suggesting that they might buy supplies from him. Also we took advantage of his presence in London to put someone in the Kuwait Oil Company in direct touch with him.

2. We shall do what we can to find further opportunities of helping Alami in this way.

Yours ever

Michael Rose

(E.M. Rose)

C.B.Duke, Esq., C.M.G., C.I.E.,
Amman.

1955

V

LEVANT DEPARTMENT

VJ 1821/5.

FDAN

FROM

Mr. Falle, Beirut
to Mr. Aspden

No. 1282/1/20.

Dated August 27.

Received in Registry— September 2.

Mr. Burns and Mr. Conrad were both enthusiastic about the idea of sending U.N.R.W.A. trainees to Musa Alami. Mr. Burns feels that there should be a school in the Jordan valley. They anticipate certain opposition to the scheme within the Agency. Encloses copy of a letter sent to Mr. Conrad confirming the conversation. Closer co-operation between Dier Alla and Alamio School is proposed.
182

References to former relevant papers

-/2.

(Print)

(How disposed of)

8c. Col. Russell Edmunds. Treasury 12/9.

P W'A'

8(c) Col. W.R. Edmunds Treasury 25/9

(Action completed)

Eg 2/9.

(Index)

References to later relevant papers

/6 + 7

MINUTES

This will be of particular interest to Amman. H.M. Amb. recently asked us to do what we could to give Musa Alami a helping hand. Mr. Falle did well to take up the question of UNRWA trainees for this agricultural school so effectively.

✓ Copy Treasury (Col. W.R. Edmunds)

Mr. Rose To see. a.a. See now -/6

22/9

F] Mr. Eyre, Beirut to Mr. Aspden 1282/1/21. Aug 31

Copy Treasury (Col. W.R. Edmunds)

8/9.

B] Mr Falle, Development Division Beirut communicated 1282/1/23

14/9

I don't think Treasury need have a copy. I agree

22/9

47524

128[illegible]1/20
CONFIDENTIAL

Development Division,
British Middle East Office,
c/o British Embassy,
Beirut.

August 27, 1955.

VJ 1821/5

Dear John,

In paragraphs 5 and 6 of his letter VJ 1821/2 of August 13 Ken Simpson mentions the idea of U.N.R.W.A. agricultural trainees going to Musa Alami's Agricultural School in the Jordan Valley.

2. Jack Eyre and I had a talk with Burns and Conrad of U.N.R.W.A. about this yesterday. Ferguson was unfortunately not available but I shall shortly be receiving a memorandum which he wrote on the subject and hope also to have a talk with him. Burns is very enthusiastic about the idea of sending U.N.R.W.A. trainees to Musa Alami. He feels with Alami that the place to have a school is in the Jordan Valley. This is not only from the point of view of farming in the Jordan Valley itself, with particular emphasis on the Jordan Valley irrigation scheme but also in view of the prospect that some refugees may, we hope, go to Iraq in the distant future. Conditions which refugees might meet in some parts of Iraq, would not be unlike conditions in the Jordan Valley. Burns and Conrad anticipate a certain opposition within U.N.R.W.A. itself to theirscheme as Alami has both his supporters and his opponents within the Agency. Burns and Conrad were delighted at out interest in the scheme and our wish to support Alami. I was asked to send them a letter stating our views which I have done. They feel that such a letter of which I enclose a copy, will help them in their internal battles.

[see -/6]

....

3. Jack Eyre is also keen on cooperation between Alami and U.N.R.W.A. and will, I am sure, be glad to do anything to further the idea. It is also proposed that there should be close cooperation between Deir Alla and Alami's school.

4. I am copying this letter with its enclosure to Amman, Jerusalem, and Eyre.

Yours ever
Sam

(S. Falle).

S. J. Aspden, Esq.,
Levant Department,
Foreign Office,
London, S.W.1.

2/8

12[illegible]/1/21
CONFIDENTIAL

VJ 1821/5A.

Development Division,
British Middle East Office,
c/o British Embassy,
Beirut.

August 31, 1955.

Dear Aspden,

I refer to Simpson's letter to Falle, No. VJ 1821/2 dated August 13, 1955, I have taken much interest in Musa Alami's project and assisted with advice, much of which has been taken. The Village Loans Committee has also on my recommendation, and in the face of much opposition given Musa Alami (Agricultural Development Society) a loan of J.D. 15,000 on easy terms to put up cold storage chambers and packing sheds which should assist considerably in solving some of the problems connected with marketing perishable produce.

2. I am copying this letter to Jerusalem, Amman and Nicosia.

Yours ever

J. C. Eyre

(J. C. Eyre).

S. J. Aspden, Esq.,
Levant Department,
Foreign Office,
London, S.W.1.

b/s

BRITISH MIDDLE EAST OFFICE

(Development Division),
c/o British Embassy,
BEIRUT.

1282/23
CONFIDENTIAL

J1821/5

September 14, 1955

K. J. Simpson, Esq.,
Levant Department,
Foreign Office,
London, S.W.1.

With the compliments of S. Falle.

Reference my letter 1282/1/20 of August 27, 1955.

COPY

United Nations Relief and
Works Agency for
Palestine Refugees,
Beirut.

13 September 1955.

Mr. S. Falle,
Development Division,
British Middle East Office,
c/o British Embassy,
Beirut, Lebanon.

Dear Mr. Falle,

Thank you for your confidential letter, reference 1282/1/19, of 29 August 1955. I have noted with pleasure your Government's as well as your own interest in the possibility of developing Musa Bey Alami's Agricultural Training School in relation to the Agency's Training Programme. I have had several meetings with Messrs. van Diffelen, Ferguson and Burns, as well as with our Jordan Programme Officer, Mr. Pruen, who is now conducting a close investigation of the possibilities offered by Musa Bey's project.

As soon as Mr. Pruen has completed his investigations and has submitted a report, I shall immediately let you know.

Very truly yours,

Willian E.F. Conrad
Assistant Director i/c
Dept. of Rehabilitation

V

LEVANT DEPARTMENT

JORDAN

V 1282/1/82

FROM

Beirut (communicated)

No. 1282/1/82

Dated 10/9.

Received in Registry— 13/9

Transmits a report by Mr. Ferguson on agricultural education in Jordan, in particular, concerning Musa Bey Alami's farming scheme.

References to former relevant papers

—/2

—/5

(Print)

(How disposed of)

Sd. Lt. W. R. Edmunds
Treasury 29/9

(Action completed)

B3

(Index)

MINUTES

It is most encouraging to see how Musa Alami's project has impressed UNRWA. This is the way we have been hoping that things would go.

Furthermore, Mr. Ferguson has come to the conclusion which Musa Alami himself is always plugging viz. that a training scheme should be in the Jordan Valley itself — not elsewhere.

I suspect that Mr. Lyne is behind much of the enthusiasm expressed here — he has done his best to administer this great work which Alami is doing.

✓ copy Treasury (Lt. W.R. Edmunds) please for information. 14/9.

Please copy as indicated.

EEG 30/9.

48018 Mr. Fergusson may wish to see

Mr Hadow ? Hardly worth a B.U. for Mr Rose

30/9. 14/9

BRITISH MIDDLE EAST OFFICE

(Development Division),
c/o British Embassy,
BEIRUT.

1202/1/22
UNCLASSIFIED

September 10, 1955

M. J. Simpson, Esq.,
Levant Department,
Foreign Office,
London, S.W.1.

With the compliments of S. Falle.

Reference my letter 1202/1/20 of August 27.

VJ 1821/6

AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION IN JORDAN

1. I recently spent two days with Musa Bey Alami at his place near Jericho and one day with Mr. Raouf Halabi on his farm on the Jordan river. I was also fortunate enough to have discussions with the Agricultural Specialists of the International Bank (Mr. Bacon) and the British Middle East Office (Mr. Eyre.)

To these four men I posed the following questions and received the answers noted:-

a. Could an adequate training in Jordan Valley Agriculture be given if a training centre were located, in say, Jerash, with an out-station in the Valley which the trainees could visit regularly for short periods?
Answer - No

b. If there has to be only one agricultural training centre in Jordan where should it be?
Answer - In the Jordan Valley.

c. Could the number of farm leaders we hope to train each year, i.e. an annual output of 25-30, be placed in the Jordan Valley?
Answer - Yes, probably, and undoubtedly so if the Yarmuk scheme materialises.

d. Where in Jordan should a training centre be located if the trainees on completion of their course migrate to Iraq?
Answer - In the Jordan Valley.

(Musa Bey Alami and the others also emphasised that in any course of training due attention should be paid to packing, canning and marketing.)

It would therefore seem to be beyond all reasonable doubt that our centre should be in the Jordan Valley. If that is agreed, we then have to decide whether to establish a separate one of our own or to ask Musa Bey to take it under his wing.

11. Musa Bey Alami's scheme

i. This consists of :-

a) A training scheme in agriculture for refugee orphan boys, who are admitted between the ages of 8 and 14 and who, until they complete their 14th year, must attend full time the elementary school which Musa Bey has established; the curriculum includes a few hours of gardening.

Those over 14 years of age are given a training in practical agriculture and they are also taught a trade- tailoring, shoe-making, carpentry, plumbing, baking. They also receive instruction and practice in the running of cars and trucks. Evening classes, too, are provided for them.

At the end of their 19th Year, they either leave and start as farmers elsewhere or they settle on land which Musa Bey is prepared to give them - 50 dunums each, I think.

There are now 75 boys in the scheme.

.../2

b. A secondary agricultural vocational school towards the establishment of which the Ford Foundation gave $150,000. It is nearing completion and will have 120 pupil places; at present there are 35 boys, who began the course last January and who have been recruited from Government and private schools. The entrance qualification is completion of third secondary (i.e. the third year of a five -year secondary course) and a maximum age of 17. The boys must also have a rural backgroun.

The course will extend over three years with 12 school months in each year; about a third of the time will be spent on theory and two-thirds on practice. No certificates or diplomas will be awarded. It will be impressed on the boys that they are being trained as practical farm leaders and not as clerks or Government officials.

ii. Musa Bey does not regard his scheme as complete. He would like to establish a secondary school with courses up to third secondary. The boys from his elementary school would then either enter the practical agricultural training scheme described in i(a) above or they would proceed to his secondary school and at the end of the third year enter his agricultural vocational school or, if they are of academic bent, a Government secondary school with a view to completing the fourth and fifth years and entering a university. (He has at present eight boys attending the Government secondary school in Jericho; one or two of them will probably enter the university later.

111. Whatever the critics may say of his scheme, there are two features which cannot be disputed, viz:-

a) he has achieved practical results: on former "dead" stappe land he has brought 1000 acres into irrigated cultivation since 1950; with barley he has obtained a 53 fold yield (the previous maximum in the Valley was 18) and with wheat a 25-27 fold yield (the previous maximum was 10-11); with bananas he gets the normal crop with a third less water and a third less labour; 14,000 chickens are florishing where experts said they would suffocate.

b) The underlying principle of the scheme is the development of character; it is inspiring to see the dignity and friendliness with which the boys go about their tasks and the affection which they have for Musa Bey. Many of them- the majority perhaps - would have been waifs sleeping in the streets at nights, and begging, fighting or stealing, if they had not found a home on the project. Whatever he may or may not have done educationally or agriculturally, he has at least done a great social service. His project has rightly been described as "perhaps the most interesting agricultural, social and educational experiment being conducted in the Middle East to day".

1V. Conclusions:

The first UNRWA/UNESCO agricultural training scheme in Jordan should be in the Jordan Valley.

It should be under the aegis of Musa Alami at his centre in Jericho, because-

a) he has the interest of the refugee boys very much at heart; his centre is a happy one and, so far as I can judge, it is efficient also;

b) it would avoid the very heavy capital costs which are involved in the setting up of an agricultural school ab initio; all that we would need to build would be additional dinning-room and dormitory accommodation;

he already has a going concern with everything required for a comprehensive scheme of training - a 1000 acre farm under irrigated cultivation; a vegetable packing station financed by ARAMCO; a cold storage plant financed by British Loan; a dairy farm which is being established with Ford Foundation funds; a poultry farm of 14,000 chickens; an agricultural machinery workshop and a vocational school;

c) it could be discontinued at any time without involving the Agency in much financial loss;

d) few people have an expert knowledge of Jordan Valley agriculture; it would therefore be very difficult for us to find suitable staff for a separate centre of our own;

e) Musa Bey assured me that he would conduct the kind of course that we want; I explained that we had in mind a two-year course with a minimum entrance qualification of second secondary - we should like to take only third secondary boys, but we may not be able to recruit a sufficient number; he thought that a two-year course was too short if dairy farming and poultry keeping were included, as they should be, but if that was what we wanted he would do his best to carry out our curriculum;

f) continuity of training operation and policy is assured, because the project is owned and directed by the Arab Development Society, a corporate body composed of 14 eminent and public minded Jordanian Leaders. A list of the members is given in the appendix. Musa Bey knows only too well the disadvantages of a one-man show and the necessity to train successors to himself and his key men. It is a constant pre-occupation with him: several times during my visit he spoke - with a note of urgency in his voice - about the importance of preparing for the day when he would not be here.

If these conclusions are accepted, we should consider whether to have a two-year course of the kind envisaged for Gaza and Jerash- a course which, as I have said, Musa Bey is quite prepared to operate for us - or to adopt the curriculum of his secondary agricultural vocational school. The latter would mean a third secondary entrance qualification and a three-year course. On the other hand, it would also mean a better product and one which could probably be employed as a teacher as well as a farm leader.

P.S. The following postscript has no direct relevance to the question which has been discussed in the previous pages; it is included merely for interest and information.

i. Jordan Valley Farming.

According to Musa Bey there are three essentials —

a) water;
b) trained farmers;
c) supervision of the cropping and marketing

The first two need no amplification. In regard to the third, in-season crops from the Jordan Valley are more expensive than those from the hills: hence only out-of-season crops should be grown in the valley. The farmers must, therefore, work on a co-operative basis (to make sure, for example, that they do not grow tomatoes at the same time) or, alternatively and preferably- since Arabs do not co-operate well with each other - the Government should allocate the water on the understanding that the farmers will grow what the Government specifies.

ii. Hill Farming

Musa Believes also that on the hills of the West Bank 150 villages could be established, each with a population of 500-1000; the ridge is rain fed and Government owned.

J. Ferguson
26. VII. 55

MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY AS REGISTERED

ON DECEMBER 31, 1952

President:	Musa Alami	Lawyer and Landowner
Members :	Khulusi Kheiry	Member of Parliament and Minister of Economics and Trade
	Ali Hasna	Minister of Justice
	Aziz Daoudi	Justice of Supreme Court
	Abdulmajid Shuman	Deputy Director-General Arab Banks Ltd.
	Dr. Tawfiq Canaan	President, Medical Association of Palestine
	Dr. Yusuf Hajjar	National Hospital, Bethlehem
	Dr. Mahmoud Dajani	Secretary, Medical Association of Palestine.
	Abdulrahim Nabulsi	President, Chamber of Commerce
	Farid Anabtawi	Landowner
	Mohamed Baradey Abbasi	Lawyer
	Dr. Amin Majaj	Secretary, Medial Society
	Mohamed Abboushi	Landowner
	Ruhi Khatib	Member, Jerusalem Municipal Council.

1915

V

LEVANT DEPARTMENT

JORDAN

VJ 1821/7

FROM

Mr. Felle, Development Division to Mr. Simpson

No. 1282/1/24.

Dated October 5.

Received in Registry— October 10

Good progress is being made with cooperation between Musa Alami and U.N.R.W.A. It is proposed to start with fifty students for a two year course so that, after the first year, there would be a hundred students.

References to former relevant papers

-/5.

(Print)

(How disposed of)

8c. Col. Russell Edmunds, 20/10

(Action completed)

(Index)

References to later relevant papers

MINUTES

Copy to Russell Edmunds, esq.

Clinton 11/10

11/10

47524

VJ 1821/7

Enter 8/10

CONFIDENTIAL

1282/1/24

DEVELOPMENT DIVISION,
BRITISH MIDDLE EAST OFFICE,
c/o BRITISH EMBASSY,
BEIRUT.

October 5, 1955.

Dear Ken,

VJ1821/5

My letter 1282/1/20 of August 27 to John Aspden and subsequent correspondence gives the general situation regarding cooperation between Musa Alami and U.N.R.W.A.

2. Burns, U.N.R.W.A.'s friendly and able economist, tells me that good progress is being made with this. Dr. Van Diffelen, the Head of U.N.R.W.A.'s Education and Training Division, with various members of his staff and Pruen, the U.N.R.W.A. programme officer in Jordan, have had meetings with Musa Alami. It is now proposed that a start should be made with 50 students, for a two year course. After one year a further 50 would come to start a new course and so on. There would thus be 50 students during the first year on one course, and 100 in subsequent years on two courses.

3. Nothing has as yet been finalized as, to quote Burns, Musa is being a little coy about how much he wants the Agency to pay him.

4. I am sending copies of this letter to Chancery, Amman, Her Majesty's Consulate General at Jerusalem, and Eyre at Jerusalem.

Yours ever
Sam

(S.Falle)

K.J. Simpson, Esq.,
Levant Department,
Foreign Office, S.W.1.

Work of Musa Bey Alami and Arab Development Society in resettling and training refugees in Jordan Valley. 1955. MS Refugee Records from the General Correspondence Files of the Political Departments of the Foreign Office, Record Group 371, 1947-1970 FO 371/115712. The National Archives (Kew, United Kingdom). Refugees, Relief, and Resettlement, link.gale.com/apps/doc/IQFHBI443071564/RRRW?u=omni&sid=bookmark-RRRW&pg=53. Accessed 15 Jan. 2025.